

IN THE CLAIMS

1 1. (currently amended) A method for entitlement management comprising:
2 responsive to a request for a service, determining if a recipient identified in
3 said request is entitled to said service;
4 if said recipient is entitled to said service, delivering said service, wherein
5 said step of determining if said recipient is entitled to said service comprises:
6 comparing a set of administrator-configurable package profile attributes
7 values associated with a package of services containing said service with
8 corresponding values for said recipient.

1 2. (original) The method of claim 1 further comprising if, responsive to said
2 determining step, if said recipient is not entitled, sending a message to said recipient
3 indicating said recipient is not entitled to said service.

1 3. (original) The method of claim 1 further comprising configuring said set of
2 package attributes wherein said set of package attributes includes selected attributes
3 having one or more attribute values.

1 4. (original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
2 determining if said service includes a limited number of accesses; and
3 if said service includes a limited number of accesses, decrementing a tracking
4 count associated with the service.

1 5. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said substep of comparing a
2 set of package profile attributes values associated with a package of services
3 containing said service with corresponding values for said recipient comprises:
4 for each profile attribute in said set of profile attributes, determining if a
5 current attribute is single-valued; and
6 if said current attribute is single-valued, determining said recipient is not
7 entitled if a value of said current attribute and a corresponding value for said recipient
8 miscompare.

1 6. (original) The method of claim 2 wherein the step of sending said message
2 comprises presenting said recipient with alternate content.

1 7. (original) The method of claim 6 wherein said alternate content includes a
2 description of criteria for said requested service.

1 8. (original) The method of claim 5 wherein if said current attribute is not single-
2 valued, determining said recipient is not entitled if each value of said current attribute
3 and a corresponding value for said recipient miscompare.

1 9. (original) The method of claim 4 further comprising:
2 logging a delivery of said service;
3 decrementing a number of available instances of said service if said service
4 has a limited usage count; and
5 sending a message to said recipient indicating said recipient is not entitled to
6 said service if the limited usage count has been consumed.

1 10. (original) A computer program product embodied in a tangible storage medium,
2 the program product comprising programming instructions for entitlement
3 management, the programming instructions for:
4 responsive to a request for a service, determining if a recipient identified in
5 said request is entitled to said service;
6 if said recipient is entitled to said service, delivering said service, wherein
7 said programming instructions for determining if said recipient is entitled to
8 said service comprises programming instructions for
9 comparing a set of administrator-configurable package attributes values
10 associated with a package of services containing said service with corresponding
11 values for said recipient.

1 11. (original) The computer program product of claim 10 further comprising
2 programming instructions for, if, responsive to said determining step, if said recipient
3 is not entitled, sending a message to said recipient indicating said recipient is not
4 entitled to said service.

1 12. (original) The computer program product of claim 10 further comprising
2 programming instructions for configuring said set of package attributes wherein said
3 set of package attributes includes selected attributes having one or more attribute
4 values.

1 13. (original) The computer program product of claim 10 further comprising
2 programming instructions for:

3 determining if said service includes a limited number of accesses; and
4 if said service includes a limited number of accesses, decrementing a tracking
5 count associated with the service.

1 14. (original) The computer program product of claim 10 wherein said programming
2 instructions for comparing a set of profile attributes values associated with a package
3 of services containing said service with corresponding values for said recipient
4 comprise programming instructions for:

5 for each profile attribute in said set of profile attributes, determining if a
6 current attribute is single-valued; and

7 if said attribute is single-valued, determining said recipient is not entitled if a
8 value of said current attribute and a corresponding value for said recipient
9 miscompare.

1 15. (original) The computer program product of claim 11 wherein the programming
2 instruction for sending said message comprises programming instructions for
3 presenting said recipient with alternate content.

1 16. (original) The computer program product of claim 15 wherein said alternate
2 content includes a description of criteria for said requested service.

1 17. (original) The computer program product of claim 14 further comprising
2 programming instructions for, if said current attribute is not single-valued,
3 determining said recipient is not entitled if each value of said current attribute and a
4 corresponding value for said recipient miscompare.

1 18. (original) The computer program product of claim 13 further comprising
2 programming instructions for:

3 logging a delivery of said service;

4 decrementing a number of available instances of said service if said service
5 has a limited usage count; and

6 sending a message to said recipient indicating said recipient is not entitled to
7 said service. if the limited usage count has been consumed.

1 19. (original) A data processing system for entitlement management comprising:

2 circuitry operable for, responsive to a request for a service, determining if a
3 recipient identified in said request is entitled to said service;

4 if said recipient is entitled to said service, delivering said service, wherein

5 said programming instructions for determining if said recipient is entitled to
6 said service comprises programming instructions for

7 comparing a set of administrator-configurable package attributes values
8 associated with a package of services containing said service with corresponding
9 values for said recipient.

1 20. (original) The data processing system of claim 19 further comprising circuitry
2 operable for, if, responsive to said determining step, if said recipient is not entitled,
3 sending a message to said recipient indicating said recipient is not entitled to said
4 service.

1 21. (original) The data processing system of claim 19 further comprising circuitry
2 operable for configuring said set of package attributes wherein said set of package
3 attributes includes selected attributes having one or more attribute values.

1 22. (original) The data processing system of claim 19 further comprising:
2 circuitry operable for determining if said service includes a limited number of
3 accesses; and
4 circuitry operable for, if said service includes a limited number of accesses,
5 decrementing a tracking count associated with the service.

1 23. (original) The data processing system of claim 19 wherein said circuitry operable
2 for comparing a set of profile attributes values associated with a package of services
3 containing said service with corresponding values for said recipient comprises :
4 circuitry operable for, for each profile attribute in said set of profile attributes,
5 determining if a current attribute is single-valued; and
6 circuitry operable for, if said attribute is single-valued, determining said
7 recipient is not entitled if a value of said current attribute and a corresponding value
8 for said recipient miscompare.

1 24. (original) The data processing system of claim 22 further comprising
2 programming instructions for, if said current attribute is not single-valued,
3 determining said recipient is not entitled if each value of said current attribute and a
4 corresponding value for said recipient miscompare.

1 25. (original) The data processing system of claim 21 further comprising
2 programming instructions for:
3 logging a delivery of said service;
4 decrementing a number of available instances of said service if said service
5 has a limited usage count; and
6 sending a message to said recipient indicating said recipient is not entitled to
7 said service if the limited usage count has been consumed.

1 26. (new) A method for delivering Web content comprising the steps of:

2 receiving from a user a request to access Web content;

3 receiving an identification of said user;

4 validating said identification of said user;

5 determining if said user is entitled to said requested Web content by
6 authenticating said user using an attribute profile for a package containing a service
7 associated with said requested Web content;

8 determining if a service quantity of said requested Web content is available if
9 said user is entitled to said requested Web content; and

10 displaying said requested Web content if said service quantity of said
11 requested Web content is available.

1 27. (new) The method as recited in claim 26 further comprising the step of:

2 displaying a description of criteria required to be met in order to access said
3 requested Web content if said user is not authenticated.

1 28. (new) The method as recited in claim 26 further comprising the step of:

2 notifying said user that said service quantity is consumed if said service
3 quantity of said requested Web content is not available.

1 29. (new) The method as recited in claim 26, wherein said user is determined to be
2 entitled to said requested Web content if a value in said attribute profile for said
3 package matches a value of a corresponding attribute in a profile of said user.

1 30. (new) The method as recited in claim 29, wherein said profile of said user is
2 retrieved using said received identification and said package containing said service
3 associated with said requested Web content.

1 31. (new) The method as recited in claim 29, wherein if a package criteria pertains to
2 a location level, then a company location level profile is used for matching said value
3 in said attribute profile for said package with said value of said corresponding
4 attribute in said profile of said user.

1 32. (new) The method as recited in claim 29, wherein if an attribute of said attribute
2 profile for said package is single-valued, then said user is determined to be entitled to
3 said requested Web content if said value in said attribute profile for said package
4 matches said value of said corresponding attribute in said profile of said user.

1 33. (new) The method as recited in claim 29, wherein if an attribute of said attribute
2 profile for said package is multi-valued, then said user is determined to be entitled to
3 said requested Web content if any value in said attribute profile for said package
4 matches a value in said profile of said user.

1 34. (new) A computer program product embodied in a computer readable medium
2 for delivering Web content comprising the programming steps of:
3 receiving from a user a request to access Web content;
4 receiving an identification of said user;
5 validating said identification of said user;
6 determining if said user is entitled to said requested Web content by
7 authenticating said user using an attribute profile for a package containing a service
8 associated with said requested Web content;
9 determining if a service quantity of said requested Web content is available if
10 said user is entitled to said requested Web content; and
11 displaying said requested Web content if said service quantity of said
12 requested Web content is available.

1 35. (new) The computer program product as recited in claim 34 further comprising
2 the programming step of:

3 displaying a description of criteria required to be met in order to access said
4 requested Web content if said user is not authenticated.

1 36. (new) The computer program product as recited in claim 34 further comprising
2 the programming step of:

3 notifying said user that said service quantity is consumed if said service
4 quantity of said requested Web content is not available.

1 37. (new) The computer program product as recited in claim 34, wherein said user is
2 determined to be entitled to said requested Web content if a value in said attribute
3 profile for said package matches a value of a corresponding attribute in a profile of
4 said user.

1 38. (new) The computer program product as recited in claim 37, wherein said profile
2 of said user is retrieved using said received identification and said package containing
3 said service associated with said requested Web content.

1 39. (new) The computer program product as recited in claim 37, wherein if a package
2 criteria pertains to a location level, then a company location level profile is used for
3 matching said value in said attribute profile for said package with said value of said
4 corresponding attribute in said profile of said user.

1 40. (new) The computer program product as recited in claim 37, wherein if an
2 attribute of said attribute profile for said package is single-valued, then said user is
3 determined to be entitled to said requested Web content if said value in said attribute
4 profile for said package matches said value of said corresponding attribute in said
5 profile of said user.

1 41. (new) The computer program product as recited in claim 37, wherein if an
2 attribute of said attribute profile for said package is multi-valued, then said user is
3 determined to be entitled to said requested Web content if any value in said attribute
4 profile for said package matches a value in said profile of said user.

1 42. (new) A system, comprising:

2 a memory unit for storing a computer program operable for delivering Web
3 content; and

4 a processor coupled to said memory unit, wherein said processor, responsive
5 to said computer program, comprises:

6 circuitry for receiving from a user a request to access Web content;

7 circuitry for receiving an identification of said user;

8 circuitry for validating said identification of said user;

9 circuitry for determining if said user is entitled to said requested Web
10 content by authenticating said user using an attribute profile for a package containing
11 a service associated with said requested Web content;

12 circuitry for determining if a service quantity of said requested Web
13 content is available if said user is entitled to said requested Web content; and

14 circuitry for displaying said requested Web content if said service
15 quantity of said requested Web content is available.

1 43. (new) The system as recited in claim 42, wherein said processor further
2 comprises:

3 circuitry for displaying a description of criteria required to be met in order to
4 access said requested Web content if said user is not authenticated.

1 44. (new) The system as recited in claim 42, wherein said processor further
2 comprises:

3 circuitry for notifying said user that said service quantity is consumed if said
4 service quantity of said requested Web content is not available.

1 45. (new) The system as recited in claim 42, wherein said user is determined to be
2 entitled to said requested Web content if a value in said attribute profile for said
3 package matches a value of a corresponding attribute in a profile of said user.

1 46. (new) The system as recited in claim 45, wherein said profile of said user is
2 retrieved using said received identification and said package containing said service
3 associated with said requested Web content.

1 47. (new) The system as recited in claim 45, wherein if a package criteria pertains to
2 a location level, then a company location level profile is used for matching said value
3 in said attribute profile for said package with said value of said corresponding
4 attribute in said profile of said user.

1 48. (new) The system as recited in claim 45, wherein if an attribute of said attribute
2 profile for said package is single-valued, then said user is determined to be entitled to
3 said requested Web content if said value in said attribute profile for said package
4 matches said value of said corresponding attribute in said profile of said user.

1 49. (new) The system as recited in claim 45, wherein if an attribute of said attribute
2 profile for said package is multi-valued, then said user is determined to be entitled to
3 said requested Web content if any value in said attribute profile for said package
4 matches a value in said profile of said user.